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CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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GATE HOUSE,

CHEPSTOW, MON.

OCTOBER, 1960

TEL. NO. 2657

CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman	Mr. Councillor W.A. Bevan. J.P.
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. Councillor A.M. Palmer.

COUNCILLORS

Mrs. M. Collins, J.P.

Mrs. E.F. Hewetson, J.P.

Mr. A.J. James.

Mr. W.G. James.

Mr. T.F.H. Lang.

Mr. G.T. Meddins.

Mr. C.E.A. Morgan.

Mr. A.T.B. O'Neill, J.P.

Mr. S. Penney.

Mr. W.J. Penney.

Mr. H.R. Pinchard.

Mr. P.H. Price.

Mr. S.J. Richards.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer	Mr. A. Gill.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector	Mr. E.M. Taylor.
Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. D.J. Turner.
Rating Officer and Collector	Mr. W.A. Hood.
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. E.N. Dowell.

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CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Gate House,

CHEPSTOW, Mon.

October, 1960.

To:- The Chairman and Members of the
Chepstow Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your District for the year ended 31st. December, 1959.

The health of the district is satisfactory.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Taylor and Mr. Turner for their help and co-operation.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

E.N. Dowell.

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres).	1,350.
Population (1931 Census)	4,303.
Estimated mid-year population.	5,960.
Estimated mid-year population for 1950 was	5,080.
Number of inhabited houses.	1,702.
Rateable Value (31st. March 1959.	£70,111.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.	£284. 0. 0d.

BIRTHS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	42	44	86
Illegitimate	3	1	4

There were III live births in 1957 and 81 in 1952.
The live birth rate per 1,000 of population for Monmouthshire was 16.85.

Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2

There were no still births in 1958.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1

In 1952 there were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age.
The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births for Monmouthshire was 27.23.
The following gives a list of the deaths of infants under one year of age, giving age at and cause of death:-

(i) Female. 15 hours. Ia. Neonatal Pneumonia.
b. Pulmonary Atelectasis.

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths.	68	35	103

In 1958 there were 120 deaths registered.

Of the number registered in 1959, 52 had died in hospitals in your Area and although they were not residents, had been in hospital for more than six months before the occurrence of death.

For the eighth consecutive year, no death was attributed to childbirth.

In 1958 four deaths were attributed to malignant disease of the lung.

Table I gives a classification of the causes of death and the number attributed to each cause.

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

DIPHTHERIA

For the seventh consecutive year, no cases were notified.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year 63 children were immunised against Diphtheria. Of this number, 44 were born in 1958 and 4 in 1959. Of the 108 children born in 1958 only 47 had been immunised against diphtheria by the end of the year.

Immunisation against diphtheria was still limited to the use of the formol toxoid vaccine.

As in 1958 there were no cases of poliomyelitis notified, so it was not necessary to suspend diphtheria immunisations.

VACCINATIONS (Smallpox)

During the year 81 primary vaccinations were carried out against smallpox. Of this number 27 were babies born in 1959.

SCARLET FEVER

No cases were notified. In 1958, there were 8.

MEASLES

Four cases were notified. In 1957 there were no cases.

WHOOPING COUGH

As in 1957 and 1958, no cases were notified.

During the year 72 children were immunised against whooping cough and of this number 71 were children in the age group 0-4 years.

POLIOMYELITIS

As in 1955, 1956 and 1958, no cases were notified. In 1957 two cases were notified and these occurred in one family.

Children from the Urban District were vaccinated at the clinic. During the year the Poliomyelitis Scheme was extended to include all persons under 26 years. Previous to this the scheme made eligible only those children born between the 1-1-43 and 30-6-57.

POLIOMYELITIS (Continued)

In order to accommodate this new group, clinics were held at Chepstow at weekly intervals during April. Further weekly evening clinics were necessary in May, so that all persons under 26 years could complete two vaccinations. 999 took advantage of the facilities made available.

DYSENTERY

No cases were notified. In 1956 there were 21 notifications.

FOOD POISONING

As in 1957 and 1958 no cases of food poisoning were notified.

MENINGITIS

One case of meningitis was notified and occurred in a boy age 3 years. The cause of the disease was the Haemophilus Influenzae.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following were the notifications of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis received during the year:-

(i) Male	51 years.	Lungs.
(ii) Female	23 years.	Lungs.
(iii) Female	7 years.	Lungs.

As a result of a case of tuberculosis occurring at Bulwark Infants School, 165 children at this school were skin tested. Of this number only two were positive and one of these had had B.C.G. in 1957.

29 children of the District whose ages were 13/14 years were vaccinated against tuberculosis.

During June a Mass Radiography Survey was carried out at St. Lawrence Hospital. Of the 56 Nursing Staff and 119 other Staff, only 2 were referred to the Chest Physician for further investigation.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED AGE GROUPS							
	Under 1 yr.	1 2	3 4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 & over	TOTAL All ages
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	4
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases. *	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL:-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	5

* Meningitis Haemophilus Influenzae.

DEATHS IN CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT 1959

	Males	Females
Syphilitic Disease.	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	3
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	6	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	6
Coronary disease, angina.	8	6
Hypertension with heart disease.	2	-
Other heart disease.	10	9
Other circulatory disease.	5	4
Influenza.	6	-
Pneumonia.	3	-
Bronchitis.	5	-
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-
All other accidents.	4	-
Suicide.	1	1
All causes.	68	35

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1959.

WATER

The water supply to the district is supplied by a private Company, and is derived from three sources in the Chepstow Park area within the Chepstow Rural District. All water is subjected to chlorination by the "Chloramine" process. The supply is adequate and routine samples are taken for both chemical and bacteriological examination.

Thirty-six samples taken during the year showed that the water was suitable for a public and domestic supply.

The water is not subject to plumbo-solvency.

SWIMMING AND BATHING POOLS

There are no swimming pools within the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Extensions were made during the year to the Council's sewerage system at Bulwark, in connection with the Council's new housing site.

. The cleansing and repair of choked or defective drainage systems, both public and private, is demanded immediately upon receipt of complaint or noted during inspections.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Almost the whole of the dwelling houses within the Urban District are provided with waterclosets connected up to the Council's sewerage system. A small number of dwellings are drained into cesspools, but as these are situated in the sparsely populated parts of the district, no trouble is experienced.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Domestic and trade refuse is collected twice weekly from all premises with a more frequent collection for the business premises in the town centre.

Disposal is effected by tipping in a large depression adjacent to the Chepstow Racecourse, and which should meet the needs of the district for many years.

HOUSING

Housing Act, 1957

During the period under review, three Clearance Orders, involving 21 houses, were made by the Council. No objections were made whereby the Orders were confirmed by the Minister without modification.

In addition, seven houses were officially represented as being unfit for human habitation, and not capable of being repaired at reasonable expense. This necessitated the making of three Demolition Orders and the acceptance of four Undertakings. It is pleasing to note however, that two of the Undertakings were cancelled by this Authority some few months later, the works necessary to bring the premises up to the required standard having been satisfactorily carried out.

HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT, 1959.

This Act came into operation on the 14th June, 1959, and was meant to be yet a further stage in a policy encouraging home ownership and raising housing standards.

The Act set up a new system of standard grants in respect of the provision of specified standard amenities, namely, the provision of (a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom; (b) a wash-hand basin; (c) a hot water supply; (d) a watercloset in or contiguous to the dwelling and (e) satisfactory facilities for storing food.

The amount of grant payable, which varies of course in each particular case, is to be one-half of the cost shown to have been incurred in providing the amenities, subject to a maximum which varies with the amenities being installed. If all five amenities are being provided, the maximum grant available is £155.

Five applications were received and approved during the year for such grants, the amount of grant being available varying in each case.

INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES

Regular inspection of houses owned by the Local Authority again continued during the year, selected areas being chosen from time to time and each house visited and inspected. Generally the houses were maintained in a very good condition, and the general state of cleanliness was found to be excellent.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Satisfactory co-operation has been achieved with the food traders, and there were complete alterations to several premises during the year, resulting in a higher standard of hygiene being able to be maintained.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The whole of the milk supplied within the district is imported, all consisting of bottled milk of the designated grades.

Nineteen samples of milk were abstracted from retailers during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination, and in each case satisfied the prescribed test.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 to 1954.
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) REGULATIONS, 1949 to 1953.

Number of Licences Issued	12.
Dealers Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk ...	2.
Dealers Licence to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	2.
Dealers Licence to retail Sterilised Milk ...	2.
Supplementary Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk.	3.
Supplementary Licence to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	3.

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1959.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES

Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	Nil
Retailers	21

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

The under-mentioned visits were carried out during the year in connection with the administration of the Factories Acts:-

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c Line No. (7)
			Insp. (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	3	6	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	35	-	-	-	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL:-		38	6	-	-	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

(1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Insp. (5)	Referred By H.M. Insp. (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	M/c line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.I)	4						4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8						8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	9						9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10						10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11						11
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	12						12
TOTAL:-							

NIL

NOTICES SERVED

Preliminary Notices served	12
Preliminary Notices complied with	7
Statutory Notices served	3
Statutory Notices complied with	Nil

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Council house repairs, rehousing etc.	317
Drainage	163
Factories	6
Rodent Infestation	25
Slaughterhouse	68
Food Premises	107
Visits re: Unsound Food	21
Water and Milk Samples	55
Public Utilities Street Works	13
Refuse Collection & Disposal	15
Interviews	25
Licensed Premises	20
Hotels	13
Food Delivery vans, Ice-cream vans etc.	3
Moveable dwellings	10
Miscellaneous	88
HOUSING (Public Health & Housing Acts)	54
HOUSING (No. of inspections made for that purpose) ...	334
Smoke observations	1
Means of Escape in Case of fire from Certain High Buildings	18
Visits in connection with Applications for Standard and Discretionary Grants	24

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	16	-	1	372	41	-
Number inspected	16	-	1	372	41	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcass condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease, other than Tuberculosis and cysticerci.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION (Contd.)

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Cysticercosis: Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-				

Number of visits to Slaughterhouse 68

In addition, routine visits were made to butchers shops to ensure that meat consignments from outside the district had been inspected at their source of origin.

CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOOD

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
TUBERCULOSIS				
Whole carcases condemned ...	-	-	-	-
Meat	-	-	-	-
Offal	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	-	-	-	-
NON-TUBERCULOSIS				
Whole carcases condemned ...	-	-	-	-
Meat	-	-	-	-
Offal	-	-	1	28
TOTAL:-	-	-	1	28
Total amount - Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis:-	-	-	1	28
OTHER FOODS				
Cooked Ham	-	1	3	17
Jellied Veal	-	-	-	24
Ox Tongue	-	-	-	12
Beef	-	-	3	18
Pork	-	-	-	6
Mutton	-	-	1	7
Corned Beef	-	-	-	18
Turkey	-	-	-	12
Pork Sausage	-	-	-	5
Imported Rabbits	-	-	-	15
Salmon	-	-	-	9
Rice	-	-	-	15
Cheese	-	-	-	14
TOTAL:-	-	4	1	4
TINS	...	...	...	612
ESCALLOPS	...	...	...	24

CATTLE MARKET

The Council control the Cattle Market, markets being held on alternate Mondays.

Animals entering the Market during the twelve months ending the 31st December, 1959 were as follows:-

CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS	TOTAL
690	424	8,223	1,520	10,857